

## **Presentation of the Candidates**

Friends, Saint Andrew's Uniting Church has received a request for Baptism from NNN and NNN for NNN and we're glad to welcome them here today.

NNN and NNN what do you ask of God's church for NNN?

**We ask that she/he be baptised  
Into the faith and family of Jesus Christ.**

NNN has been brought for baptism  
That he/she may be grafted into Christ  
As a member of his body, the Church,  
To grow into the faith of Jesus Christ  
And become his faithful witness and servant.

NNN may God open your ears to hear God's word and your mouth to proclaim God's praise.

## **Word of Scripture**

Mark tells the story of the baptism of Jesus:  
In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee And was baptized by John in the Jordan.  
And just as he was coming up out of the water,  
He saw the heavens torn apart  
And the Spirit descending like a dove on him.  
And a voice came from heaven,  
'you are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

## **Meaning of Baptism**

Baptism is Christ's gift.  
It is the sign by which the Spirit of God  
Joins people to Jesus Christ  
And incorporates them into his body, the Church.  
In his own baptism in the Jordan by John,  
Jesus identified himself with humanity  
In its brokenness and sin;  
That baptism was completed in his death and resurrection.  
By God's grace,  
Baptism plunges us into faith with Jesus Christ,  
So that whatever is his may be called ours.  
By water and the Spirit we are claimed as God's Own  
And set free from the power of sin and death.  
Thus, claimed by God  
We are given the gift of the Holy Spirit  
That we may live as witnesses to Jesus Christ,  
Share his ministry in the world and grow to maturity,  
Awaiting with hope the day of our Lord Jesus.

## **Confession of Faith**

The Uniting Church in Australia in baptising children, takes responsibility for their instruction and nourishment in faith.

That we may know that you hold the Christian faith  
And claim your membership in Christ's Church,

We ask you NNN and NNN  
Do you repent of your sins?

**I repent of my sins**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ  
Who has defeated the power of sin and death  
and brought us new life?

**I turn to Christ**

Do you commit yourself to God,  
Trusting in Jesus Christ as Saviour  
And in the Holy Spirit  
As God's power and presence along the way?

**I commit my self to God**

In unity with the whole church,  
Let us stand as we are able and affirm the faith  
Into which we were baptised.

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.  
We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.  
We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

*(A New Creed, United Church of Canada)*

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God of life,  
Through the breaking of the waters  
And the coming of the Spirit,  
You bring us new birth;  
You give the living water,  
Which becomes in us  
An eternal spring quenching our thirst,  
Flowing through us  
And refreshing us for eternal life.  
Washed and cleansed,  
We are called into service with Christ.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
Bless this water, and those baptised in it,  
That they may be born anew,  
Live in light all of their days,  
And come to share your likeness;  
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Who lives and reigns with you the Holy Spirit,  
One God, now and forever. Amen.

## **The Baptism**

For you Jesus Christ has come,  
Has lived, has suffered;  
For you he endured the agony of Gethsemane  
And the darkness of Calvary;  
For you he uttered the cry, "it's accomplished!"  
For you he triumphed over death;  
For you he prays at God's right hand;  
Even before you were born.  
In Baptism the word of the apostle is confirmed:  
'We love, because God first loved us.'

NNN  
I baptise you  
In the name of the Father and of the Son,  
And of the Holy Spirit.

**AMEN**

NNN, from this day on, the sign of the cross is upon you. NNN is now received into the one holy catholic and apostolic Church according to Christ's command.

## **Aaronic Blessing**

The Lord Bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make his face shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you;

The Lord lift his countenance upon you,  
and give you peace.

**(NNN is taken around the congregation and NNN's name is placed on the Baptism Quilt)**

### **Responses**

NNN and NNN I ask you now to respond to God's graciousness to NNN by making these solemn promises:

Will you encourage NNN's growth within the Christian community,  
Guiding him through participation in the worship,  
Nurture and fellowship of the Church  
To a mature Christian faith?

**With God's help, we will.**

Will you, by word and example,  
Teach NNN the way of Christ  
Until the Spirit draws him  
To make his own response in faith and love?

**With God's help, we will.**

Friends in Christ,  
Will you promise to maintain a life of worship and teaching,  
Witness and service  
So that NNN may grow to maturity in Christ?

**With God's help,**

**We will live out our baptism**

**As a loving community in Christ:**

**Nurturing one another in faith,**

**Upholding one another in prayer,**

**And encouraging one another in service,**

**Until Christ comes.**

### **Baptismal Candle**

NNN, you belong to Christ, The light of the world.

Let your light so shine before the world that all may see your good works and give glory to God.